

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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- The construction of large transmitters, (Gross-Sender) has decreased considerably; new developments in this line are not foreseen during 1955. The testing fields (Prueffelder) are empty and the sources of current and measuring instruments invested in these fields are not paying for themselves. Jamming transmitter construction has come to a complete standstill. The only transmitters which are still being developed are: a single sideband short-wave transmitter, for which only 75,000 DM have been provided; and a long-wave transmitter with a 250 kW which is about three-quarters completed. For this latter transmitter, only 80,000 DM have been provided for 1955. The amounts provided for these two transmitters will not be nearly sufficient for the completion of the transmitters. A television transmitter with a capacity of 30 kW and 40A is about 75% completed. However, the sum of 100,000 DM provided for 1955 for this project will also not be sufficient to complete the transmitter. A 50 kW ultra short wave transmitter, supposedly to be developed in 1955, will not be built because no funds have been allocated for it; 300,000 DM were planned for this project, which sum, however, would not have been sufficient for the completion of such a transmitter. In the production area of ship's radio transmitters are a developed emergency transmitter (under an order for 300 units) and an 800-watt medium-wave limiting-wave transmitter (expected 1955 orders - 50 units). Orders are expected from fisheries for 50 lugger stations (Logger-Station) in 1955. The development of the emergency transmitter, which is to be constructed in a smaller size than the existing model, was not to be given to the Abteilung Schiffsfunk since the chief of Abteilung TEE (Technische-Entwicklung Empfanger), Jens-Peter Rehahn, needed work along with his large station receiver (Grossstations-Empfanger) work which is progressing poorly. Since the production pilot model for the 800 W limiting-wave transmitter will not be completed before the fall of 1955, because of inefficient material deliveries, Abteilung TEE is without development contracts.
- Export
VEB Funkwerk Koepenick sent equipment to three foreign exhibitions, including one in Peiping and one in Cairo. The equipment delivered to the latter two fairs (high-frequency thermal generators and high-frequency welding apparatus and measuring instruments) did not survive the sea transport, since it arrived completely corroded. The VEB attempted to obtain export orders for large transmitters and other apparatus at these exhibitions. However, the prices for the equipment were so high and the equipment so poor that it could not meet

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foreign competition. The large station receiver, which was delivered incompletely developed and untested, was in fifteenth place in the competition. The profits from equipment deliveries

_____ were lost through the payment of _____ penalties.

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Structural Elements Department (Abteilung Bauelemente)

3. The systematic development and production of construction parts in East Germany was actually begun in early 1953. An exhibition of structural elements in East Berlin indicated that the quality of the switches, connectors, variable condensers, condensers, etc., left something to be desired. Only a small percentage could actually be called tropic-proof. The main reason for this was that the Ministry for Heavy Industry's deadlines did not allow time for development of the specific equipment. At first, the developmental models were constructed with parts from former German army stocks which apparently satisfied the requirements. Although these stocks are running low, the Ministry has not heeded the warnings of industry that something must be done in this field.

Relocation of Structural Elements Construction

4. The Structural Elements Department of VEB Funkwerk Koepenick has stopped any further development of variable condensers, and the means for measuring these (tangent-delta measuring bridges and temperature measuring areas), since these elements are to be constructed by VEB Funkwerk Arnstadt, to which factory the production, development, and testing of variable condensers is to be transferred. A transfer of the construction of structural elements from Berlin development enterprises is to take place. Following are two examples of this proposed transfer:

Construction of high-frequency connectors and plug connections by VEB Funkwerk Koepenick and VEB Werk fuer Fernmeldewesen (WF), Oberschoenevide, is to be transferred to VEB Sachswerk Radeberg;

Construction of newly developed switches of the WF plant is to be transferred to VEB Funkwerk Grossbreitenbach¹ and to VEB ELRADO Dorfhaien.²

This transfer is also to include all the tools necessary for the production of the various structural elements. Each of the new producing enterprises will have a development office subordinated to it. Furthermore, production of individual parts of the structural elements by private enterprises is to be discouraged in the future and this production is to be transferred to nationalized enterprises (VEBs) in East Germany. Affected private enterprises include: Gebr. Kleinmann, Lichtenberg;³ Firma BAGO, Berlin-Pankow;⁴ Firma ROKA;⁵ and other smaller enterprises. These enterprises will also be required to turn over their production tools to the VEBs.

General Production

5. Production of tropic-proof molded material has been sadly neglected; nothing at all has been done in the way of metal-clad contacts. For example, the production of beryllium-bronze sheet metal for overburdened and overheated electrical contact blades has not been started at VEB Presswerk Auerhammer because of a shortage of material. Also, in the field of hard silver-plating of contacts only Firma Strohbach, a private enterprise in Dresden,⁶ is capable of doing a first-class job of silver-plating. Furthermore, for insulation material for high frequency engineering, the production of teflon in the place of polystyrolene is under development in a small fashion at the Firma Hayden (Prof. Mueller) in Radebeul.⁷ Two different types, Harteflon and Stafilon, are being produced in small quantities. A similar development is under way at the VEB Elektrochemisches Kombinat Bitterfeld. The silicon lacquer produced is usable to a degree and at

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Funkwerk Koeppenick impregnation of transformer windings for higher thermal ratings is being developed. Production of epoxyde resin (Epoxydharz) is underway, but the quality (phase-angle difference and electricity constant - Verlustfaktor und Elektrizitaetskonstante) is not as high as that of the West German products such as araldite. This epoxyde resin is especially important as protective shells in the production of small mica (dielectric) condensers which are being developed in VEB Kondensatorenwerk Gera and are to be produced there in greater numbers in 1955.

VEB Funkwerk Koeppenick Plan for 1955

6. The Structural Element Department of Funkwerk Koeppenick has the following projects according to the 1955 Plan:

- a. Spring slides (Federfuehrung) for transmitter tube sockets and, in connection with this, coordination with the enterprises constructing the sockets. The consuming industries have indicated enough interest to warrant production in the amount of 30,000 DME.
- b. Development of three ceramic switches, tropic-proof, smiliar to the Mayer switches produced in West Germany, for lower range high-frequency voltages and currents up to a maximum of 2 kV and 0,5 amperes.

Total expenditure 26,000 DME

- c. Development of a high-tension high-frequency switch for 5 kV and 6 amperes, smiliar to the Mayer switches.

Total expenditure 39,000 DME

- d. A study project for high-frequency high-power transformers for large transmitters. Decrease in the size and the spacing of high-tension-carrying parts by mounting in containers of compressed gas (Frigeon) at 15 Atue.

Total expenditure 10,000 DME

- e. Transition into series production of various mountings at various enterprises. For example: SRS-308, SRS-301, SRS-304, RD-207, SRL-305, SRS-501, (SRS-391) SRS-502, SRS-401, LG-1, LD-1, and LG-16.

Total expenditure 15,000 DME

- f. Testing of structural elements for clear patent rights

Total expenditure 3,000 DME

- g. Testing of structural elements for tropic-proof qualities

Total expenditure 3,000 DME

- h. Development of transmitter structural elements

Total expenditure 200,000 DME

TOTAL (6a. through 6h) 326,000 DME

Expected orders from other departments of Funkwerk Koeppenick and from other firms: 34,000 DME (estimate)

Total planned amount: 360,000 DME

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Consumer Goods Production

7. Technical Director Walter Heine had not found any way to make up the 1,700,000 DME deficit of the plant, since for 1955 the plant had only one-half the orders that it had in 1954. A deficit of one million DME was incurred in connection with the production of coffee-grinders which could not be covered by the sale of these items, since a poor quality electric coffee-grinder costs 95 DME. The 1954 planned production of electric coffee-grinders was 10,000 units; the actual production was 300 units. Production and development of consumer goods has not, however, been halted because of these poor results. Rather, mass production of detector (crystal) apparatus, radio time switches, and ventilators is increasing, and plant personnel are being asked for new suggestions for consumer goods production.

Measures for Cost Reduction

8. All departments have been instructed to cut down on both long-distance telephone calls and on local, or internal, calls. The departments have also been instructed to conserve on nonferrous metals such as aluminum, brass, and red bronze; certain trustworthy employees have been put in charge of the distribution of these metals. The DDR press has castigated the poor financial situation at Funkwerk Koenig, mainly to satisfy the requirements of the so-called "self criticism" idea. This had an adverse effect, however; other firms became hesitant about accepting orders from Funkwerk Koenig, since they were not sure of receiving payment.

Investments

9. Investments for the procurement of measuring devices and other necessary machines for the plant for 1955 have been cancelled in toto; even investments for the procurement of office furniture (200 DME worth) were approved only after long discussions. New economies are allegedly to be achieved by allowing only certain specified amounts to each department for repairs (about 40 DME per month per department).

Decrease in Size of the Enterprise

10. As of March 1955, Funkwerk Koenig employed 3,500 persons in its three plants. Of this number, 600 persons, including West Berlin residents, are to be discharged gradually. Further discharges are in the offing since the plant believes it can make the decreased orders profitable through a decrease in personnel. In the Oberschoeneweide plant, no. II, 60 female workers receiving an hourly wage of 1.80 DME are to be discharged; new employees then taken on will be obliged to do the same work on the night shift for an hourly wage of 1.40 DME.
11. The two development areas TE 1 (Transmitter Construction) and TE 2 (Measuring Devices) were merged into one development directorate. Chief of this new development was Heins Andreas, who had not performed his functions satisfactorily in the Main Administration RFT in the Ministry for Heavy Industry and who supposedly was to redeem himself in this new position. He resigned after a few days, allegedly because of a sudden illness, and then disappeared. In development area TE 1, Transmitter Construction Departments 1 through 4 were combined into one department, TES, in order to reduce costs. The former chief of these four departments, Wolfgang Bruske, has been discharged.

Unsuccessful Investments

12. In expectation of larger orders from foreign countries for large transmitters (Plant Manager Paul B6er - mentioned seven large transmitters for China), 200,000 DME worth of ceramic condensers were produced and stored. These could not be sold as a result of the completely changed economic situation and the fact that the size produced is no longer in use. A loss of 100,000 DME was incurred in connection with the procurement and processing of mica sheets which had inadequate dielectric strength and had to be scrapped.

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 Comments:

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1. As received. Previously reported as VEB Werk fuer Bauelemente der Nachrichtentechnik Grossbreitenbach.
2. Elektro-Radiozubehoer Dorfhai.
3. Gebr. Kleinmann, Treuhand-Betrieb, Berlin-Lichtenberg, Weitlingstrasse 70.
4. BACO - formerly BACO Elektro GmbH; according to the index of manufacturers in the Leipzig Fair directory, Spring 1955, this firm has now been renamed VEB Elektro-Mechanik (vorm. BACO).
5. ROKA - Robert Karst, Berlin SW 29, Gneisenastrasse 27.
6. Strohbach und Schoene, Metallveredelung, Dresden A 16, Blasewitzer Strasse 27.
7. Possibly identical with Oehme und Mueller, Radebeul 1, Rennerbergstrasse 11.

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